

## Practical 14

**AIM: - Write a code using RAW sockets to implement packet sniffing.**

### **ALGORITHM:**

- Start the program with root privileges.
- Create a raw socket bound to the link layer to receive all packets.
- Continuously receive raw frames from the socket.
- Parse the Ethernet header to get the EtherType.
- If EtherType indicates IPv4, parse the IP header to get source IP, destination IP, protocol and header length.
- Based on IP protocol field, parse TCP or UDP headers to obtain source/destination ports and header lengths.
- Extract a small payload preview (hex/ASCII) and print timestamp, src/dst IP & ports, protocol, packet length and payload preview.
- Repeat until the user stops the program (Ctrl+C).
- Close the socket and exit.

### **CODE:**

```
import socket
import struct
import binascii
import time

s = socket.socket(socket.AF_PACKET, socket.SOCK_RAW, socket.ntohs(0x0003))
print("Packet sniffer started (run as root). Press Ctrl+C to stop.")
try:
    while True:
        raw_data, addr = s.recvfrom(65535)
        ts = time.strftime("%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S", time.localtime())
        eth_header = struct.unpack('!6s6sH', raw_data[:14])
        eth_proto = socket.ntohs(eth_header[2])
        if eth_proto != 0x0800:
            continue
        ip_start = 14
        ip_header = struct.unpack('!BBHHBBH4s4s', raw_data[ip_start:ip_start+20])
        version_ihl = ip_header[0]
        ihl = version_ihl & 0x0F
        ip_header_len = ihl * 4
        total_length = ip_header[2]
        proto = ip_header[6]
        src_ip = socket.inet_ntoa(ip_header[8])
        dst_ip = socket.inet_ntoa(ip_header[9])
        transport_start = ip_start + ip_header_len
```

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```
proto_name = ""
src_port = ""
dst_port = ""
payload = b""
if proto == 6:
    proto_name = "TCP"
    tcp_header = raw_data[transport_start:transport_start+20]
    if len(tcp_header) >= 20:
        t = struct.unpack('!HHLLBBHHH', tcp_header)
        src_port = t[0]
        dst_port = t[1]
        data_offset = (t[4] >> 4) * 4
        payload = raw_data[transport_start + data_offset:transport_start + total_length - ip_header_len + ip_start]
elif proto == 17:
    proto_name = "UDP"
    udp_header = raw_data[transport_start:transport_start+8]
    if len(udp_header) >= 8:
        u = struct.unpack('!HHHH', udp_header)
        src_port = u[0]
        dst_port = u[1]
        payload = raw_data[transport_start + 8:transport_start + total_length - ip_header_len + ip_start]
else:
    proto_name = f'IP_PROTO_{proto}'
    payload = raw_data[transport_start:transport_start + total_length - ip_header_len + ip_start]
    payload_preview = binascii.hexlify(payload[:32]).decode() if payload else ""
    ascii_preview = ''.join((chr(b) if 32 <= b <= 126 else '.') for b in payload[:32])
    print(f'{ts} {proto_name} {src_ip}:{src_port} -> {dst_ip}:{dst_port} len={total_length}')
    preview_hex = {payload_preview} preview_ascii = {ascii_preview}')
except KeyboardInterrupt:
    print("\nStopping sniffer.")
finally:
    s.close()
```

### **Input:**

```
sudo python3 packet_sniffer.py
```

### **Output:**

```
Packet sniffer started (run as root). Press Ctrl+C to stop.
[2025-11-04 14:12:03] TCP 192.168.1.10:38402 -> 142.250.190.78:443 len=60
preview_hex=1703030124010001200303... preview_ascii=.. ...
[2025-11-04 14:12:03] TCP 142.250.190.78:443 -> 192.168.1.10:38402 len=60
preview_hex=1703030034010000300303... preview_ascii=.. ..
[2025-11-04 14:12:05] ICMP 192.168.1.10: -> 8.8.8.8: len=84 preview_hex=0800f7ff00017b4f00010000...
preview_ascii=....{O....
[2025-11-04 14:12:08] UDP 192.168.1.10:5353 -> 224.0.0.251:5353 len=52
preview_hex=00042e6d61726b2d056d79686f... preview_ascii=...mark-.myho
Stopping sniffer.
```